

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

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O 141513Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9762

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONROVIA 2563

EXDIS

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: (A) STATE 089726, (B) MONROVIA 2508, (C) MONROVIA 2434

1. IN CONSTRUCTING SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 30 BETWEEN 11:35 A.M. AND 2:30 P.M. WE ARE OPERATING UNDER FOLLOWING CONSTRAINTS:

A. FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS HAS ALREADY TOLD US THAT LIBERIAN PROTOCOL DEBARS ANY LIBERIAN (AND SPECIFICALLY DENNIS HIMSELF) FROM HOSTING LUNCHEON BEFORE PRESIDENT'S DINNER. MONROVIA 2508 BASED ON THIS CONCEPT ENUNCIATED BY DENNIS.

B. POSSIBILITY OF SECRETARY'S HOSTING LUNCHEON WHILE GUEST IN LIBERIA HAS ALREADY BEEN DISAPPROVED BY PRESIDENT (MONROVIA 2434). THIS WAS IN CONTEXT OF POSSIBLE RECIPROCATION OF HOSPITALITY BY SECRETARY. PRESUMABLY PRESIDENT WOULD REGARD WITH EVEN LESS FAVOR SECRETARY'S HOSTING LUNCHEON AT WHICH LIBERIANS WOULD BE GUESTS BEFORE PRESIDENT'S DINNER

C. IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO DENNIS THAT SECRETARY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER IN HIS OFFICE.

2. FOR APRIL 30 PERIOD BETWEEN ARRIVAL AND MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS EMBASSY SUGGESTS 55 MINUTES FREE TIME FOLLOWED BY 12:30 P.M. LUNCHEON (LASTING ONE HOUR 50 MINUTES) HOSTED BY
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SECRETARY OR AMBASSADOR FOR HEADS OF U.S. FIRMS OPERATING

CONCESSIONS AND BUSINESSES HERE. IN NO OTHER WAY COULD SECRETARY GET AS GOOD A FEEL FOR ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH IMPORTANT NON-GOVERNMENTAL U.S. INTERESTS ARE OPERATING THAN THROUGH TALKS WITH THESE MEN. FIRMS REPRESENTED WOULD INCLUDE FIRESTONE, B.F. GOODRICH, CHEMICAL BANK (BANK OF LIBERIA), FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK, UNIROYAL, LAMCO, LIBERIA REFINING COMPANY (SUN OIL), LIBERIA TRACTOR AND EQUIPMENT CO., PANAM, VANPLY, AND POSSIBLY OTHERS, DEPENDING ON SIZE OF GROUP SECRETARY WOULD DESIRE.

3. GIVEN TIME BLOCK AVAILABLE (11:35 TO 2:20), NEED FOR LUNCHEON, AND SECRETARY'S KNOWN AVERSIONS (INDUSTRIAL SITES, ETC.), EMBASSY IS NOT ABLE TO SUGGEST OTHER ATTRACTIVE OPTIONS. ONLY OTHER MUSEUMS ARE TWO HOURS AND 3.5 HOURS DISTANT, AND VISIT TO MAIN MONROVIA MARKET WOULD BE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE FROM SECURITY STANDPOINT.
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